Judge Stays Ruling on CIA Book

Post 4/5/74

U.S. District Court Judge Albert V. Bryan yesterday granted a stay of his ruling allowing a controversial book about the Central Intelligence Agency to be published.

The stay will give attorneys for the government time to appeal to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond.

The government had challenged the book, asking that hundreds of paragraphs be deleted because they endangered national security. After William Colby, CIA director, testified to that effect, Judge Bryan ordered that the CIA cutbacks should be limited to a handful, and that the book may be published.

The book is by Victor Marchetti and John D. Marks, former CIA employees. The case is considered a test of how far the government can go in the area of prior restraint on publishing in such cases.